

CITY OF LIVERPOOL.



EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

REPORT

ON THE WORK OF THE

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE

FOR THE YEAR

1940

BY

W. M. FRAZER, O.B.E., M.D., Ch.B., M.Sc., D.P.H.,
Barrister-at-Law,

Medical Officer to the Education Authority

(Received by the Education Committee on the
21st day of July, 1941.)

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Whole-time Assistant School Dental Officers.

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E. CROSBIE, L.D.S.
A. P. FINLAY, L.D.S., R.F.P.S.
L. A. JONES, L.D.S.
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J. W. MARTIN, L.D.S.

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J. TYSON, L.D.S.
I. WILLIAMS, L.D.S.
L. C. WINSTANLEY, L.D.S.
J. A. WOOD, L.D.S.

Part-time Assistant School Dental Officers.

W. P. JONES, L.D.S. (*From 16/7/1940*).

H. W. MARTIN, L.D.S. (*From 15/7/40*).

E. G. PRYSOR-JONES, L.D.S. (*From 15/7/1940*).

Part-time Specialist Officers.

D. Rankine, M.B., Ch.B. (*Oculist*).

(*Also Oculist for Crown Street School for the Deaf.*)

John A. McCann, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S., F.R.F.P.S.
(*Oculist*).

Courtenay Yorke, M.D., F.R.C.S. (*Surgeon i/c of Aural Scheme.*
Aurist for Crown Street School for the Deaf).

B. L. McFarland, M.D., M.Ch.(Orth.), F.R.C.S.
(*Orthopædic Surgeon*).

W. J. Eastwood, M.Ch.(Orth.), F.R.C.S., (*Orthopædic Surgeon*).
(*Resigned 16/5/40, for duration of War.*)

W. S. Diggle, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S. (*Orthopædic Surgeon*).

Superintendent of School Nurses.

Miss M. L. Nickson.

Chief Clerk.

Mr. F. J. Geldart.

Also :—71 Whole-time school nurses.

20 School nurses (temporary).

2 Orthopædic nurses.

12 Clinic helpers.

5 Dental attendants.

34 Clerks.

2 Clerks (Temporary).

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CITY OF LIVERPOOL.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

REPORT of the MEDICAL OFFICER to the Education Authority for the Year ended 31st December, 1940.

1. The Medical Officer submits herewith his Report on the work of the School Medical Service for the year 1940, which, though shorter than previous reports has been no easier to compile owing to the pressure of work upon those concerned in supplying the necessary information.

Despite the many unavoidable difficulties which are constantly arising owing to war conditions the department has managed to maintain the various branches of the service comparatively well in comparison with peace-time conditions. The same number of clinics have been maintained as reported in the 1939 Report and the facilities for specialised treatment, such as Defective Vision, Aural, Orthopaedic Defects, etc., have been continued.

2. With regard to children in the reception areas, satisfactory arrangements have been made for the children to receive the benefits of the School Medical Services in these areas, and it is gratifying to report the co-operation which exists with the School Medical Officers concerned. Arranging for the different forms of treatment provided under the School Medical Service for large numbers of children separated from their parents is not an easy matter. This difficulty soon evidenced itself after the first evacuation scheme, when, owing to the fact that the billeting householders in reception areas had not been placed in *loco parentis*, considerable delays occurred in providing medical and dental treatment for evacuated children. The

Board of Education, in view of these difficulties, so far as dental treatment was concerned suggested that if children's teeth showed evidence of previous treatment the parents' willingness for treatment might be assumed. One of the Liverpool school dental surgeons seconded to a reception area draws attention to a difficulty which such a recommendation did not overcome. He points out that there are considerable numbers of evacuated children of the ages of 5 and 6 who require dental treatment but whose teeth do not and cannot be expected to show evidence of fillings.

In Liverpool, for some time, steps have been taken, whenever possible, to get parents, when they register their children for evacuation, to sign forms agreeing to dental treatment and immunisation whenever the dental surgeon or doctor, in the reception area, so recommends. This endeavour to overcome the difficulty entails much labour for the reception authorities who have then to forward the names, Liverpool addresses and schools attended, of all Liverpool children received into their areas. When parents refuse to sign dental acceptance forms for their children it makes it very difficult for dental officers in the reception area when faced with such cases requiring emergency treatment, and the situation is further encumbered when, on following-up, the parents cannot be traced at the address previously given.

3. School Medical Departments have been called upon to make special efforts to deal with lousiness, concerning which the Board of Education and Ministry of Health, in their joint memorandum on the "Incidence of Lice," make the following statement:—"Powers are available to both authorities which should be adequate to secure the desired result."

The powers under the Education Act are limited to school children between the ages of 5 and 14. Reports of School Medical Officers shew that comparatively few prosecutions are taken under this Act and there is evidence that in some instances this is due to the unhelpful attitude adopted by some magistrates which has created among the responsible officials a feeling of futility in taking such cases to Court. Dr. Mellanby, in his investigation, showed that the highest rate of infestation was found amongst pre-school children, whilst females over school age shewed an incidence rate of 36·5 per cent. at the age of 15 and 7·8 per cent. at the age of 21. The powers to deal with these groups

which clearly act as reservoirs for constantly reinfecting the school children as soon as they are cleansed are contained in the Public Health Act, which empowers Local Authorities to provide cleansing stations and to cleanse of vermin the person or clothing of anyone *applying* to them for this to be done. It would be interesting to ascertain the frequency of such voluntary applications! To apply any compulsion the Medical Officer of Health or Sanitary Inspector must first of all satisfy the County Council or Local Authority who can empower him to apply to a Court of Summary Jurisdiction, who, if satisfied, will grant an order for compulsory cleansing. Such powers are far too cumbersome for general application and would in fact, by reason of the time incurred in carrying out the procedure, be of little assistance in compelling delousing as a preventive measure even when dealing with an outbreak of typhus.

4. So far as the personnel of the staff is concerned there have been certain changes. Dr. M. C. Winter, who had had previous experience in doing refractions, joined the staff to undertake some of this type of work which had been previously done by part-time officers, and Dr. L. H. W. Walker was also appointed as an additional member of the staff. The whole-time staff took over the examining and certifying of physically defective children, part of the certifying in connection with the ascertainment and certification of mentally defectives, and part of the refraction work.

Doctors A. T. Burn and M. Godwin joined H.M. Forces on the outbreak of war, and three of the dental officers, Messrs. L. Bromley, J. W. Martin and L. C. Winstanley, were mobilised shortly after, whilst Mr. J. E. Roberts joined H.M. Forces in April, 1940. Three temporary part-time school dental officers were appointed.

Two medical and four dental officers were loaned part-time to reception authorities, whilst two dental officers were in the reception areas throughout the year.

5. The Medical Officer is indebted to the Director of Education for information supplied with regard to certain sections of this Report relating, in particular, to the work in connection with the Special Schools, Provision of Meals, and Juvenile Employment.

6. The statistical tables required by the Board of Education concerning the work carried out appear in Appendix "A" and Appendix "B", but a summary of the work undertaken, together with certain other information, is here given.

CITY OF LIVERPOOL.

GENERAL SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT.

1. By School Medical Officers :—

(a) Medical Inspections :

| | Public Elementary Schools. | Higher Schools. | Special Schools. | Nursery Schools. | Junior Instruction Centres. | TOTALS. |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Routine Inspections | 39,237 | 3,357 | 70 | 75 | 128 | 42,867 |
| Special Inspections | 39,455 | 862 | 20 | 2 | 30 | 40,369 |
| Re-inspections ... | 48,693 | 59 | 80 | — | 16 | 48,848 |
| TOTAL INSPECTIONS | 127,385 | 4,278 | 170 | 77 | 174 | 132,084 |

(b) Treatment carried out :

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|---------------|
| Cases of miscellaneous minor ailments | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12,552 |
| „ „ skin diseases | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3,530 |
| „ „ eye diseases | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,340 |
| „ „ ear diseases | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,334 |
| TOTAL | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 18,756 |

2. By Specialist Officers :

Treatment carried out :

| | | | | | | |
|--|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| (a) No. of cases of defective eyesight treated by Oculists at Clinics or own rooms | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4,173 |
| (b) „ „ „ dealt with at Aural Clinics | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,080 |
| (c) „ „ „ dealt with by Surgeon at Orthopaedic Clinics | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,022 |
| (d) „ „ „ operated upon for Tonsils and Adenoids | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 69 |
| (e) „ „ „ treated by X-rays | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 19 |
| TOTAL TREATED BY SPECIALISTS | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6,363 |

3. By School Dental Officer :

| | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Elementary School Children treated at Clinics | ... | ... | ... | ... | 15,816 |
| Special and Approved School Children treated | ... | ... | ... | ... | 193 |
| Maternity and Child Welfare cases treated | ... | ... | ... | ... | 150 |

MEDICAL ARRANGEMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH EVACUATION.

7. The procedure in connection with evacuation schemes is as follows:—

As soon as possible after children have registered for evacuation, if time permits, they are given a full medical examination, the results being entered on a special evacuation medical record card. At these examinations medical billeting cards are made out on each of which the doctor enters brief notes for the information of the officials in reception areas, for example, that the child is quite suitable for private billeting or should be admitted to a hostel, the reason being given. These medical billeting cards are taken down to the reception area by the teachers in charge of the parties and, on detraining, given to the responsible officials.

The day prior to the children's departure a final medical examination is made, and the billeting cards brought up to date whilst the nurses inspect for cleanliness and suitability of clothing. As on these occasions over 100 schools may have to be visited throughout the day, the schools are allocated into as many groups as there are doctors available, and a team of workers is responsible for examining the registered children in each such group. A team comprises a doctor, two or more nurses and a clerk, whilst some of the dental staff act as liaison officers, who, in order to obviate any delays go in advance of the team to the school next to be visited so as to have all in readiness for the team on their arrival. The dental officers also keep in touch with the office by telephone to record the progress of the various teams throughout the day. By such means, if any teams are hard pressed it is possible later in the day to send to their aid another team which may have completed its work.

Arrangements are made for all children found verminous to be forthwith cleansed, and in addition to making use of the six permanent cleansing stations, additional temporary cleansing stations are improvised in clinics, schools, etc. Some 35 such additional cleansing stations are scheduled for use as and when required, and the average number utilised is 20. By such means in one day alone 943 children were cleansed. The task of cleansing such a large number of children, in addition to inspecting a much larger number, was only accomplished through the

Maternity and Child Welfare Department loaning some of their health visitors and the Matrons of some of the City Hospitals loaning a number of their nurses.

8. It will be appreciated that in a city the size of Liverpool with so many schools to be visited in a day and with so much work to be undertaken in carrying out these schemes that rapidity of transport is essential and this has been achieved through the willing help of both the Women's Voluntary Service and the Air Raid Precautions Ambulance Service who between them have provided the means of transport on these occasions.

9. Health Visitors, equipped with first-aid outfits, travel on the trains taking the children to the reception areas, the numbers so travelling being in proportion to the numbers of children sent. At the detraining station the Health Visitors offer their services to the reception authorities to assist them in any further examinations which may be necessary.

Overseas Evacuation Examinations, 1940.

| | Boys. | Girls. | Total. |
|--|-------|--------|--------|
| Total cases examined | 1,174 | 996 | 2,170 |
| Passed suitable | 971 | 755 | 1,726 |
| Unsuitable | 89 | 108 | 197 |
| Withdrawn by parents | 4 | 6 | 10 |
| Deferred for further examination | 110 | 127 | 237 |

ENURESIS.

10.—As a result of the first evacuation in September, 1939, many children suffering from enuresis were billeted upon householders in the reception areas. The incidence of such cases was much greater than had been supposed, apparently many parents at the routine medical examinations having withheld such information. Accordingly, in

carrying out examinations in preparation for further evacuations the parents were told that it was important, in the interests of their children, to supply accurate information in this respect, with the result that approximately 870 of the school children were reported to have this disability.

11. An "enuresis clinic" was started, to which 269 cases were referred during the year and from which 95 were discharged as cured. In 4 per cent. of the cases some physical cause for the condition was discovered, such as cystitis, nephritis, etc., and in 6 per cent. subnormal mentality was considered to be a factor. There were grounds for concluding that many of these cases were simply the result of lack of training, since one-third of the parents could not be persuaded to bring their children to the clinic, although they were not receiving any treatment elsewhere, whilst others not infrequently made such remarks as "the child (5-7 years of age) is only a baby". Also, a number of parents described the condition as "a family weakness", whereas the cause was probably a lack of appreciation as to the necessity for early training.

NUTRITION.

12. The table showing the classification of the nutrition of children inspected in the routine age groups during the year appears on page 37.

From this table it will be seen that 8·15 per cent. were regarded as of excellent nutrition, 88·75 per cent. as of normal, 3·04 per cent. as slightly subnormal and ·06 per cent. as bad. These figures are practically the same as those given in the 1938 and 1939 reports, and the general opinion of the School Medical Officers is that the nutrition of the Liverpool school children under war conditions has definitely not deteriorated.

Since grading is a matter of personal opinion, it would not be surprising, as a result of a changing personnel, to find statistics shewing sudden deviations. Under such circumstances it would be unjustifiable to conclude from statistics alone that any improvement or deterioration in the nutrition of the children had really occurred.

13. Nutrition surveys were carried out in 104 schools at the time of the routine inspections at these schools. It was found that 3,431 children

were already having milk (177 two bottles daily), 15 free meals, and 172 both free meals and milk. 445 children were not having milk, either because no scheme was functioning at the school at the time of the inspection, or because the children did not like milk.

As a result of the surveys, 21 additional children were recommended for free meals, 42 for free meals and milk, and 917 for milk (232 for two bottles daily), whilst in 316 instances the medical officers reported that, on medical grounds, the provision of free meals, free milk, or both, was no longer considered necessary.

PROVISION OF MEALS AND MILK.

14. At the beginning of the year dinners were being served at 14 Dining Centres and 3 more centres were re-opened during the ensuing months.

The total number of dinners supplied free of charge was 461,015. The highest number of individual children who were provided with free dinners during any one week was 2,483, i.e. about 2·79 per cent. of the average number of children on the rolls of the elementary schools in December, 1940.

The number of children receiving dinners on payment increased from 39 in January to 105 in December.

15. Milk, under the Milk in Schools Scheme was not provided for school children from 1st January to 10th February, owing to the closing of the schools and during one week in March and one week in December during holidays.

The total number of milk meals provided during the year was 1,897,071.

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

16. The following Table shows the work carried out under the dental scheme for children attending the Public Elementary Schools :—

TABLE 1.

| | | 1938 | 1939 | 1940 |
|---|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Number of children examined in school | | 71,711 | 54,600 | 36,190 |
| Number of children requiring treatment | | 58,057 (80·8%) | 43,386 (79·4%) | 30,040 (83·0%) |
| Number of cases accepting treatment under the Dental Scheme | | 32,265 (55·6%) | 22,457 (51·8%) | 18,172 (60·4%) |
| Number of cases treated | | 29,985 | 22,388 | 15,816 |
| Number of schools concerned | | 131 | 105 | 68 |

The period under review comprises the first full year under wartime conditions. Whilst some restriction of the service has been inevitable and much of the work has been carried out under difficulties, a good standard of work has been maintained. The acceptance rate has, it will be observed, reached a new high level (60·4 per cent.) a fact which augurs well for the greater successs of the school dental service on a return to normal conditions.

One more dental officer, Mr. J. E. Roberts, was called up for military service in April, making a total of 4 thus embodied. Applications were, therefore, invited for two temporary whole-time appointments to assist in the work at the clinics, but it was found that the claims of the services and private practice rendered it difficult to obtain suitable candidates for these posts. Accordingly, three part-time dental surgeons were appointed in July, who between them devoted 15 sessions weekly to the clinic work of the Committee.

The staff, even with these additions, is, however, insufficient to deal with all the children remaining in Liverpool and it is hoped, in the ensuing year, that additional assistance may be forthcoming.

17. Satisfactory arrangements have been made for the dental treatment of evacuated children in the reception areas to which they have been sent. Where possible, the treatment of these children has been undertaken by the Local Authority of the reception area; when this has been found impossible owing to the inadequacy of the dental staff in these areas, Liverpool dental officers and dental attendants have been temporarily seconded to the Local Authority to assist in the work. Assistance of this nature was supplied during the year to the Caernarvonshire, Denbighshire, Lancashire, Cardiganshire, Anglesey, Flintshire and City of Chester Local Authorities, and in each of these areas, all the Liverpool evacuees were inspected and received an offer of dental treatment. In some of these areas it was found possible to complete the necessary treatment fairly quickly and, in these instances, the dental officers were recalled to Liverpool on the completion of the work. In Caernarvonshire and Denbighshire, on the other hand, the number of children evacuated is so large that it was found impossible to treat all the children in less than 12 months, and in these areas, therefore, the two dental officers and one attendant have remained seconded to these Local Authorities.

EAR, NOSE AND THROAT CONDITIONS.

18. The aural clinics have been functioning regularly for most of the year and attendances have been excellent. Difficulties have, however, been experienced in following up absentees.

Arrangements were made for this work also to be carried out at the Garston Minor Ailments Clinic for the convenience of children living in that area.

The following Table gives the types and numbers of cases treated at the aural clinics:—

TABLE 2.**Aural Clinics.**

Number of children who attended for examination and treatment ... 1,080

Total number of attendances at clinics... 3,516

| Defect. | Total. | Dry or Healed. | Improved. | No treatment given. | Still under treatment. | Failed to complete treatment. | Referred to Hospital. |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|-----------|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Acute Otitis Media... | 113 | 78 | — | 5 | 7 | 18 | 5 |
| Suppurating Otitis Media ... | 336 | 173 | — | 20 | 32 | 102 | 9 |
| Chronic Suppurating Otitis Media ... | 231 | 31 | — | — | 75 | 105 | 20 |
| Deafness without Otorrhœa ... | 76 | 7 | 9 | 9 | 24 | 24 | 3 |
| Otalgia and other conditions ... | 128 | 89 | — | 16 | 3 | 18 | 2 |
| Nasal Defects ... | 196 | 31 | 16 | 32 | 13 | 88 | 16 |
| TOTALS ... | 1,080 | 409 | 25 | 82 | 154 | 355 | 55 |

19. At the routine examinations of the public elementary school children, the number found to require treatment for unhealthy tonsils or adenoids was 695, which represents a percentage of 1.77 of the children examined.

Apart from the cases discovered at the routine examinations, 104 other children were found to require treatment for one or both of these conditions. In cases where the school medical officers are uncertain whether or not to recommend operative treatment, arrangements are made for them to be seen at the clinic by the specialist. Altogether, 374 of these doubtful cases were referred to him during 1940, and in 207 cases an operation was advised.

20. Arrangements were made for tonsils and adenoids operations to be carried out at the Alder Hey Children's Hospital, but owing to

difficulty of obtaining beds only 78 cases were treated during the twelve months.

The operations were as follows:—

| | | | |
|----------------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| Tonsils only | ... | ... | 29 |
| Adenoids only | ... | ... | 1 |
| Tonsils and Adenoids | ... | ... | 48 |
| | | | — |
| TOTAL | ... | ... | 78 |
| | | | — |

The children are admitted on the day prior to operations and are discharged two or three days following treatment.

DEFECTIVE VISION.

21. The number of children with defective vision, found at the routine examinations of the second and third age groups was 4,044 (15·7 per cent.), but only 1,944 (7·6 per cent) required treatment. Altogether, 583 of the entrants were suspected of having defective vision, 488 of these showing evidence of squint. In addition to the cases found amongst the children in the routine age groups, 807 were seen as special cases.

All cases of defective vision were kept under regular supervision at the medical re-inspections, and 2,900 children, who had been provided with glasses, were re-inspected with a view to finding out whether the time had arrived for them to be sent to the clinics for re-examination by the oculist. At the re-inspections in the schools, 1,082 (37·3 per cent.) were found not to be wearing their glasses.

22. The number of new cases treated under the Committee's scheme was 1,145, whilst 46 children were treated privately or at hospitals. The number re-examined at the clinics was 2,727. These numbers do not represent the total number of attendances since many children with amblyopia received intensive treatment, attending weekly, or oftener, for many weeks.

23. Under the arrangements made with the Hospitals and Port Health Committee for the treatment of squint in pre-school children, 212 children were examined by the oculist, and glasses were provided in 175 of these cases.

The school medical officers reported that, in the course of their inspections they had examined six children who had been operated upon for the correction of squint, such operations having been carried out at the various hospitals in the city.

ORTHOPÆDIC SCHEME.

24. There were 1,022 children under supervision at the clinics, 437 of these being new cases, of which number 154 were seen at the Walton clinic, 150 at the Everton Road clinic, and 124 at the Dingle House clinic. Altogether the cases made 6,822 attendances, either for examination by the surgeons or for massage or exercises, the average number of attendances per case for massage or remedial exercises being 12·2.

Arrangements were made for 25 of the cases to be admitted to hospital, whilst 19 cases were referred to hospital for X-ray examination.

25. The following is a summary of the treatment carried out at the hospitals on the cases referred from the clinics:—

Summary of Hospital Treatment, 1940.

| | | | |
|---|-----|-----|----|
| Correction of deformities of feet or toes | ... | ... | 11 |
| Tenotomies or stretching | ... | ... | 2 |
| Osteotomies | ... | ... | 2 |
| Treatment of torticollis by operation | ... | ... | 6 |
| Other operations | ... | ... | 4 |
| | | — | — |
| | | 25 | — |

The accompanying table shews, in detail, the work carried out at the Clinics:—

TABLE 3.

Cases dealt with under the Orthopaedic Scheme during 1940.

Cases seen at Surgeons' Visits.

Massage and Remedial Exercises Department.

| Defect | Cases seen at Surgeons' Visits. | | | | | | No. of ATTENDANCES. | | | | | | No. of CASES. | | | | | | No. of ATTENDANCES. | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|--------|---------------------|--------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|--|
| | No. of CASES | | | No. of ATTENDANCES | | | No. of CASES | | | No. of ATTENDANCES | | | No. of CASES | | | No. of ATTENDANCES | | | No. of CASES | | | No. of ATTENDANCES | | |
| | Dingle House | Clinic | Everton Road | Total. | Dingle House | Clinic | Everton Road | Total. | Dingle House | Clinic | Everton Road | Total. | Dingle House | Clinic | Everton Road | Total. | Dingle House | Clinic | Everton Road | Total. | Dingle House | Clinic | Everton Road | |
| Infantile Paralysis | 11 | 14 | 18 | 43 | 18 | 30 | 42 | 90 | 4 | 9 | 17 | 52 | 113 | 91 | 256 | | | | | | | | | |
| Birth Palsy ... | 1 | 6 | 1 | 8 | 1 | 7 | 2 | 10 | — | 2 | — | — | 14 | — | 14 | | | | | | | | | |
| Spastic Paralysis | 13 | 18 | 29 | 60 | 23 | 40 | 59 | 122 | 8 | 10 | 22 | 40 | 149 | 254 | 392 | 795 | 20 | | | | | | | |
| Rickets | 49 | 38 | 68 | 155 | 84 | 75 | 113 | 272 | 2 | 5 | 7 | 14 | 14 | 31 | 46 | 91 | | | | | | | | |
| Talipes | 7 | 16 | 10 | 33 | 12 | 34 | 25 | 71 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 11 | 3 | 84 | 83 | 170 | | | | | | | | |
| Spinal Curvature | 19 | 18 | 19 | 56 | 30 | 32 | 33 | 95 | 17 | 11 | 13 | 41 | 130 | 134 | 159 | 423 | | | | | | | | |
| Torticollis ... | 3 | 7 | 10 | 20 | 3 | 13 | 14 | 30 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 41 | 44 | 88 | | | | | | | | |
| Flat Feet ... | 111 | 117 | 120 | 348 | 184 | 222 | 207 | 613 | 45 | 63 | 53 | 161 | 416 | 814 | 513 | 1,743 | | | | | | | | |
| Other deformities | 24 | 47 | 17 | 88 | 44 | 82 | 34 | 160 | 4 | 14 | 3 | 21 | 54 | 170 | 30 | 254 | | | | | | | | |
| Other defects ... | 27 | 71 | 99 | 197 | 45 | 134 | 171 | 350 | 11 | 34 | 51 | 96 | 63 | 491 | 607 | 1,161 | | | | | | | | |
| No orthopaedic defect found ... | 3 | 3 | 8 | 14 | 3 | 3 | 8 | 14 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | | | | | | | | |
| TOTALS ... | 268 | 355 | 399 | 1,022 | 447 | 672 | 708 | 1,827 | 93 | 148 | 167 | 408 | 884 | 2,146 | 884 | 1,965 | 4,995 | | | | | | | |

MINOR AILMENTS.

26. During the year, 16,837 cases were treated at the Minor Ailments Clinics, necessitating 174,289 attendances being made by the children, the average number of attendances being 10·4 per child.

27. Scabies remain prevalent, 2,021 new cases amongst school children being reported. There were discovered 2·7 cases of scabies per thousand children examined as routines, as compared with 2·1 per thousand in 1939. Treatment facilities were provided at four of the Health Committee's cleansing stations, where, in addition to school children, there were also treated any pre-school children or older female members of the families affected. In all, 1,919 school children, 207 adults, and 254 children under school age, were treated at these clinics.

During the year, owing to the difficulty in obtaining sufficient supplies of benzyl benzoate, various other preparations have been tried, but the benzyl benzoate treatment, as detailed in the 1938 report, is still considered the method of choice.

A doctor attends each clinic weekly to see all cases under treatment, 2,271 examinations of these children being made, and 1,693 of them re-admitted to school.

At the end of the year there were 445 cases still under observation or treatment.

28. The number of cases reported as ringworm of the scalp was 22, compared with 37 during the previous year. Including 4 cases uncured at the end of 1939, there have been 26 cases under treatment during 1940, of which 19 were cured and re-admitted to school before the end of the year, 9 of these having been treated by X-rays at the Belmont Institution.

INSPECTION CLINICS.

29. These clinics, augmented in 1939 to meet the special need consequent upon the closure of many of the schools, have proved so useful that they were continued throughout 1940. They are held at the various minor ailments clinics where a school medical officer attends once a week to see special cases referred by teachers, school health visitors and attendance officers.

The numbers of examinations made at the special inspection clinics were as follows :—

| | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Absentee examinations ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 923 |
| Employment examinations | ... | ... | ... | ... | 994 |
| General medical examinations | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2,589 |
| Dental examinations | ... | ... | ... | ... | 834 |

NOTIFICATION OF DEFECTS AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR FOLLOWING UP.

30. The percentages of parents attending at the examinations of their children as entrants, second age group, and leavers were 86·3, 63·2 and 25·4 respectively. The percentage for other ages was 45·4.

In connection with the following up of cases and in arranging appointments for treatment 35,899 notices were sent from the office to parents.

PARENTS' PAYMENTS.

31. The charges made by the Committee for the various forms of treatment provided in Liverpool remain as stated in the 1938 report.

The following amounts were received during the year 1940 as parental contributions towards the cost of treatment for :—

| | £ | s. | d. |
|--|---------------|----------|----------|
| Defective vision... | 712 | 3 | 6 |
| Dental defects ... | 441 | 16 | 10 |
| Tonsils and adenoids ... | 77 | 12 | 9 |
| Ringworm of the scalp | 1 | 10 | 0 |
| Orthopaedic repairs ... | 2 | 14 | 0 |
| Overseas Evacuation Medical Examination Fees ... | 7 | 7 | 6 |
| TOTAL... | £1,243 | 4 | 7 |

THE LIVERPOOL CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC.

32. The work of the Liverpool and District Child Guidance Council has been continued throughout the year, though not without difficulty. Circumstances connected with the war deprived the clinic not only of much voluntary psychiatric and psychological help, but also weakened their financial position.

Child Guidance Clinics have proved their value, with the result that more clinics are being opened throughout the country, and their methods adopted in smoothing out evacuee difficulties in reception areas. The possibility of having to close the Liverpool clinic, therefore, caused much concern. Fortunately, however, this step was, for the time being, obviated by the making of certain adjustments and in curtailing the number of cases accepted for treatment.

At the beginning of the year 47 schoolboys, 11 girls and 5 pre-school children were under treatment, and throughout the year a further 75 cases were referred, 41 boys, 19 girls and 15 pre-school children.

33. It is gratifying to report that few cases had to be referred in consequence of air raids, though some of the children under treatment for other reasons showed an increase in nervousness from this cause. In the opinion of the clinic workers a most important factor in these matters is the attitude of the parents.

A war condition that has shewn a marked effect is the breaking up of the family unit, such as the enforced absence of the father, and the inability of some of the mothers to shoulder their increased responsibilities whereby the structure of the family has become less stable and behaviour disturbances have developed in the children.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS ACT.

34. In accordance with the arrangements made under Section 35 of the Children and Young Persons Act (1933), medical reports, for the information of the Magistrates in the Juvenile Courts at Liverpool and district and in certain reception areas, were submitted in 2,150 cases.

In those cases where the Magistrates required a report on the mental condition, the examinations were carried out by Dr. G. Stuart Robertson, Senior Assistant School Medical Officer. Of the 25 such cases examined during the year, 12 had previously been certified as mentally defective under the Education Acts, 2 were certified as a result of the examinations and 11 were diagnosed as dull and backward. Dr. Pinder, the medical officer of the Remand Home, also reported on the physical condition of 9 cases.

EMPLOYMENT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

35. During the year a total of 3,981 children (3,878 boys and 103 girls) were employed. The school medical officers examined 994 children as to their fitness to undertake work before school hours and in 2 cases certificates were refused on medical grounds.

During the year, the Sub-Committee, dealing with the licensing of children, granted 17 theatrical licences.

EVERTON ROAD NURSERY SCHOOL.

36. The Nursery School returned to Everton Road from Hightown in June. The number on roll was reduced to 100, which was the number for which air-raid shelter provision was available. When the day-time alerts were common much time was spent in the shelter, and gauze masks were provided for the children's use whilst in them. The Head Mistress reports that many of the children spent their nights in public shelters, and some showed evidence of insufficient sleep, to counter which the mid-day sleep period was lengthened.

The children were medically and dentally inspected and all the school clinic facilities were available for the children, considerable use being made of the adjoining minor ailments clinic. The nutrition of three children only was regarded as being under normal.

UNCLEANLINESS.

37. The school nurses made 567,087 examinations of school children with regard to cleanliness, and altogether 37,666 children were found to shew some evidence of verminous infection or were very dirty. In the case of 1,882 children, statutory notices were served upon the parents owing to their failure to cleanse their children after previous notifications, and 466 children had to be compulsorily cleansed by the staff.

The total number of attendances made at the six cleansing stations during the year was 20,517, of which number 20,020 were on account of verminous conditions.

TUBERCULOSIS-

38. The crowding together of numbers of people in shelters, in children particularly, increases the risk of contracting respiratory catarrhal infections, which if frequently recurring lower the resistance and facilitate the establishment of tubercle bacilli.

At the routine inspections in the schools there were discovered 40 cases of tuberculous glands, and 36 cases of other forms of tuberculosis, a total of 76 cases, or 0·29 per cent. amongst the routine cases examined.

There were also seen at the inspection clinics, or as special cases at the schools, 5 definite or suspected pulmonary cases, and 11 cases of other forms of tuberculosis.

The number of cases discovered at the routine examinations is less than that discovered in 1939, though the numbers themselves afford no true comparison, but the incidence rate does show a reduction from ·34 per cent. to ·29 per cent.

All the cases of actual or suspected tuberculosis discovered by the school medical officers were referred to the tuberculosis officers for examination. The number of references so made was 121, whilst the Tuberculosis Department supplied information with reference to 719 school children who had been reported from other sources as possible cases of tuberculosis. Of these, 252 were new cases for the year and 169 were reported as non-tuberculous.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN SCHOOLS.

39. There was a slight decrease in the number of cases of infectious disease reported amongst children of school age during the year; 3,731 cases, a decrease of 233, being reported as against 3,964 in 1939 and 6,232 in 1938. The decrease in the number of cases was shared by all the infectious diseases with the exception of measles; diphtheria showed a reduction of 84 cases; and scarlet fever a reduction of 568 cases. The increase in the number of measles cases, namely, 1,854, was due to an epidemic which commenced in the second quarter of the year and reached its peak early in the fourth quarter.

It was not necessary to close any school or department on account of infectious disease. The arrangements for the inoculation of children attending the infants' departments of the public elementary schools were carried out as in previous years. For this purpose visits were paid to 35 schools. The response varied considerably in the different schools, but taking the schools as a whole, approximately 25 per cent. of the infants attending were inoculated. The total number of school children inoculated at the schools was 1,738. In addition, a considerable number of children of school age were inoculated at the two immunisation clinics, held at the Carnegie Welfare Centre and the Norris Green Clinic.

SCHOOL PREMISES.

40. The periodic inspections of school premises by the school medical officers and the inspection of the sanitary arrangements by the district sanitary inspectors were continued as formerly.

The Surveyor has kindly supplied details relating to all the improvements made in connection with public elementary schools during the year, which may be summarised as follows:—

List of improvements made in various Schools during 1940.

| | | | |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----------|
| Heating arrangements | ... | ... | 6 Schools |
| Playgrounds | ... | ... | 1 School |
| Baths and Lavatories | ... | ... | 1 ,, |
| Alterations | ... | ... | 2 Schools |

SPECIAL SCHOOLS.

41. The total number of children at the end of the year who had been certified as blind was 25, of whom 17 were attending Wavertree School for the Blind, 5 the Roman Catholic School for the Blind, Brunswick Road, one the Royal Normal College for the Blind, London, one Court Grange Special School for the Blind, Abbots Kerswell, South Devon, and one Sunshine House, Southport.

42. Classes for the partially-sighted children were re-opened during the year at the following centres:—Christ Church C.E. School, St. James's Council School, Underlea Day Open Air School and Fazakerley Day Open Air School. The number on rolls at these classes at the end of the year was 73, the average attendance being 49·5.

43. The majority of the scholars of the Crown Street School for the Deaf, about 100 in number, who had been in residence since the outbreak of hostilities at Underlea Open-air School and Woolton Vale Country School, were transferred in September and October to houses in Birkdale, "Stoneycroft", Waterloo Road, and 23, Lancaster Road. Part of the Crown Street School was opened towards the end of the year for those scholars who were not evacuated and 28 children were enrolled.

44. Considerable re-organisation of the work of the Special Schools became necessary under war-time conditions. The schools were closed at the outbreak of war, but during 1940 five day schools were re-opened in their own premises and one, the Chatham Place School, in the premises of the Crown Street School for the Deaf. Three schools were utilised for Civil Defence purposes, and any of their scholars who remained in Liverpool were either transferred to other Special Schools or were taught in Home Teaching groups.

The accompanying return shews the result of the examinations made by the Certifying Officers for the ascertaining of Mentally and Physically-Defective children during the year:—

TABLE 4.

| | | | | Referred as Physically Defective. | Referred as Mentally Defective. |
|---|-----|-----|-----|---|---------------------------------------|
| Passed for M.D. Schools—Day | ... | ... | ... | — | 26 |
| Passed for M.D. Schools—Residential | ... | ... | ... | — | 1 |
| Passed for P.D. Schools—Day Special | ... | ... | ... | 92 | 2 |
| Passed for P.D. Schools—Day Open-Air | ... | ... | ... | 170 | — |
| Passed for P.D. Schools—Residential... | ... | ... | ... | 21 | 1 |
| Passed for Epileptic Schools | ... | ... | ... | — | — |
| To Remain in Ordinary Schools | ... | ... | ... | 85 | 20 |
| Postponed for further trial in ordinary school or for treatment | | | | 41 | 45 |
| Unsuitable for any school (P.D.) | ... | ... | ... | 12 | — |
| Referred to Child Guidance Clinic | ... | ... | ... | 1 | — |
| Referred for Mental Examination | ... | ... | ... | 13 | — |
| TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN EXAMINED | | | | 435 | 95 |

Cases Notified to the Lancashire Mental Hospitals Board during the
year 1940.

45. The following Table shews the work carried out during the year by the dental staff of the School Medical Department at the Special Schools and the Sankey Approved School.

TABLE 5.

| | Sankey. | Special Schools. | Total. |
|--|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| Number of inspection sessions ... | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| Number of treatment sessions ... | 23 | 5 | 28 |
| Total number of sessions | 27 | 8 | 35 |
| Number of children inspected ... | 234 | 218 | 452 |
| Number of children requiring treatment | 148 (63·2%) | 138 (63·3%) | 286 (63·3%) |
| Number of children treated ... | 160 | 33 | 193 |
| Number of attendances made for treatment... | 160 | 33 | 193 |
| Number of teeth extracted ... | 132 | 103 | 235 |
| Number of teeth filled ... | 78 | — | 78 |
| Number of other operations ... | 53 | — | 53 |
| Number of administrations of general anæsthetics ... | 77 | 33 | 110 |

46. Arrangements have been made with the authorities in the reception areas to which the evacuated special schools children have been sent, whereby these children have been included within the County schemes of dental treatment. Regular quarterly visits have, as heretofore, been arranged for the treatment of the boys at the Sankey Approved School. A very satisfactory standard of dental fitness amongst these boys is being maintained, the reason, of course, being that in their case the necessity of persuading their parents of the desirability of agreeing to their receiving dental treatment does not arise.

47. The school medical officers carried out the routine medical inspections and re-inspections at the Day Special Schools and also the special examinations under Section 56 (5) of the Education Act, 1921. The following is a summary of the number of examinations made by them :—

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Routine examinations | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 70 |
| Re-inspections | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 80 |
| Special inspections | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 20 |
| TOTAL | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 170 |

Facilities for treatment are available under the Committee's Schemes, 55 cases of defective vision being dealt with, comprising 5 new cases and 50 re-examination cases. In addition, 3 children were operated on for tonsils and adenoids, 10 were treated at the aural clinics and 9 at the scabies clinics. In the case of children suffering from crippling defects, full use was made of the facilities available at the orthopaedic clinics.

48. The Committee retain 36 beds at the Chest Hospital's residential open-air school at Torpenhow, near Frankby.

There were 79 Liverpool children admitted to this school during the year. Following their stay at Torpenhow the children were kept under special supervision by the school medical officers, and 5 were subsequently admitted to day open-air schools.

49. In addition to the deaf children who were evacuated to premises in Birkdale, two other groups of Special Schools children were evacuated during the year to large premises in the reception area. At the end of the year the following habitations were being run as residential schools for defective children, viz. :—

| Hostel. | Accommodation. | Type of Defect. |
|--|----------------|-----------------------|
| "Stoneycroft," Birkdale | 75 | Deaf. |
| 23, Lancaster Road, Birkdale | 28 | „ |
| *Nant-y-coed, Llandudno Junction | 49 | Physically Defective. |
| *Tyndwr Hall, Llangollen | 55 | „ „ |
| Edward Malam Home, Deganwy | 40 | „ „ |
| Crookhey Hall, Cockerham | 75 | Mentally „ |
| White Heather Home, Old Colwyn | 40 | „ „ |

* Opened in 1939.

50. The care of the general health of the children in these residential schools is in the hands of local practitioners who have been appointed by the Education Committee. The work in connection with certification and special treatment is dealt with by school medical and dental officers who visit the schools periodically.

As would be expected, the gain in health and weight and consequently educational attainments of the children in the residential schools has been considerable. Examples of the progress made are shewn in the reports of the Head Teachers of Tyndyr Hall and Nant-y-Coed, two of the special schools established for physically defective children at the outbreak of war.

51. At Tyndwr Hall, the gain in weight per month ranged in a number of cases to as much as $12\frac{1}{2}$ ounces; there was only one minor outbreak of infectious disease, namely, 6 cases of chickenpox; and the average attendance for the year was 95 per cent.

52. Nant-y-Coed has a large proportion of heart cases, among whom, in the first months following evacuation, there were a number of cases of acute and sub-acute rheumatic fever, but since the end of May, 1940, there has not been one such case. At this school there was no infectious disease throughout the year. The average monthly gain in weight was, for boys 15 ounces, and for girls 12 ounces. The Head Teacher quotes

statistics to shew that the educational progress has been in conformity with the general improvement in health.

53. As a result of the marked increase in juvenile delinquency since the beginning of the War, there has been an ever-growing demand for Remand Home accommodation.

To meet this demand the premises of the old Hightown Approved School were adapted for use as an Auxiliary Remand Home, to which up to 100 boys could be transferred from the parent home in Derwent Road, Liverpool. Despite this substantial addition to the Committee's Remand Home resources the demand for places again exceeded the available accommodation by the end of the year, and it became necessary to consider plans for a further augmentation in the new year.

54. The magistrates, in an increasing number of cases, are remanding children for special examinations as to their mentality. These examinations are conducted by the Committee's Certifying Officers, who in some instances have also to attend the Juvenile Court to give evidence on their findings.

55. The Committee's Junior Approved School, to which boys up to the age of 13 years are committed from the Juvenile Courts, completed its first year in new quarters at Sankey, near Warrington, to which it was transferred last year from Hightown.

The general health of the boys has been very good, apart from two outbreaks of infectious disease of a minor character.

56. In addition to the special schools and the accommodation provided at Torpenhow, the Committee have an option on three beds at the West Kirby Convalescent Home, also on six beds (mainly for heart cases) at the Liverpool School for Recovery, and they are able to secure some places at the Maghull Home for Epileptics. During the course of the year, one case has been in residence at West Kirby, and three at the School of Recovery, whilst eleven cases have been maintained at the Home for Epileptics. Certain mentally defective children require to be admitted to residential special schools, and during the year 10 defectives were maintained by the Committee at "Pontville" Roman Catholic Special School, Ormskirk, 7 at Allerton Priory Roman Catholic

Special School, Woolton, and 2 at Dovecot Horticultural School for Mentally Defective Girls, Knotty Ash.

HIGHER SCHOOLS.

57. The arrangements for the medical examination, following-up and treatment remain the same as reported in the 1939 Report.

The number of schools visited during the year was 22, and the numbers of medical inspections carried out were as follows:—

| | | | | |
|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Routine cases... | ... | ... | ... | 3,357 |
| Re-inspections | ... | ... | ... | 58 |
| Special cases ... | ... | ... | ... | 862 |

The number of routine cases having defects for which they were referred for treatment was 414 (12·3 per cent.), some of these having multiple defects. Defects of the nose and throat were noted in 198 children (5·9 per cent.), ear disease in 89 (2·6 per cent.), and organic heart disease in 23 (0·6 per cent.) of the children.

JUNIOR INSTRUCTION CENTRES.

58. The scheme arranging for the medical inspection of juveniles attending the junior instruction centres and for the provision of medical and dental treatment remains the same as reported in the 1938 report. The number of juveniles attending the centres was greatly reduced consequent upon the increased opportunities for obtaining employment.

During the year, 141 juveniles were examined, 52 of these being boys and 89 girls, and, including re-inspections, 170 examinations were made. In the course of these examinations it was found necessary in the case of 16 boys and 7 girls either to prohibit or to make certain modifications with regard to their participation in games.

As a result of the above examinations, 34 juveniles were found to require treatment for defective vision, 2 for orthopaedic and postural defects, 59 for dental caries and 3 for aural conditions. The Committee's schemes for treatment dealt with 12 cases of defective vision and 8 cases of dental caries.

From the middle of May, 1939, every juvenile at the junior instruction centres was allowed $\frac{1}{3}$ pint of milk and biscuits each day. Four

cases of subnormal nutrition were recommended for additional free milk.

JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT BUREAU-

59. During the year the services provided by the Authority's Juvenile Employment Bureau for helping boys and girls on leaving school, and up to their eighteenth birthday, to obtain employment suited to their attainments, ability, and bent of mind have been fully maintained, and have been the means of guiding many hundreds of juveniles at a time when, under war conditions, their entry upon the industrial world must be made under circumstances very different from those common to times of peace. At the beginning of 1940, the high figures of juvenile unemployment that were recorded during the first few months of the war shewed no diminishment, but by the month of March a definite improvement had taken place, and thereafter the absorption of both boys and girls into industry was steadily effected. The "Live Register" at the 8th January, 1940, revealed that 5,326 juveniles (2,702 boys and 2,624 girls) were unemployed; by the 3rd June, 1940, the numbers had fallen to 1,761 (901 boys and 860 girls). The improvement in the juvenile position was due, as will be appreciated, to the fact that older workers, called up for the Services in large numbers, were to a large extent replaced by juveniles; further, certain firms who had secured contracts for war supplies were able to some extent to utilise the services of boys and girls in the execution of these contracts.

To an increasing extent, as schools reopened during the year, the system under which Bureau Officers visit the schools to give employment advice to school leavers was restored, while contact had from the beginning been maintained with the Liverpool schools in reception areas, in order to assist school leavers either remaining in the reception areas for employment (as a certain number were willing to do), or returning to their homes in Liverpool. Altogether, during the school year some 8,700 school leavers (4,300 boys, 4,400 girls) registered at the Bureau. In addition, applications for employment from juveniles who had already been in work were received from 18,700 (9,660 boys, 9,040 girls). Thus the total registration figure for the year was 27,400.

The Bureau Service has been extensively used by employers during the year, the number of vacancies notified being 24,164 (13,212 for boys and 10,952 for girls), an increase of approximately 5,000 (about 4,000 for boys alone) as compared with last year. Of these vacancies a total of 19,579 was filled by the Juvenile Bureau (10,142 by boys and 9,437 by girls), an increase of approximately 4,000 on last year's figures. Placings, on the whole, were much the same in character as during the preceding year, although, of course, a considerable number of juveniles were sent to firms engaged on Government Contracts. There was evidence of higher wages being paid by nearly all employers. It may be said that the attraction of high wages has a tendency to unsettle certain types of young workers who gravitate to higher paid jobs and are inclined to change their work all too frequently.

60. With regard to ex-pupils from local Secondary Schools, 728 (386 boys, 342 girls) applied at the Bureau for advice and assistance on leaving school. For these there was little difficulty in securing suitable openings, chiefly in clerical and commercial work. Quite a number of boys entered aircraft manufacturing and other forms of engineering work. In view of the suspension of Civil Service Entrance Examinations, there was an unsatisfied demand for both boys and girls for temporary appointments in Government Departments. Altogether, 529 applicants (297 boys, 232 girls) from schools of higher education were placed by the Bureau, and of these 435 (238 boys, 197 girls) were placed directly on leaving the schools.

The increased local demand for juvenile labour did not directly improve the employment opportunities for applicants coming from the Special Schools for mentally and physically defective children, although special appeals were made to employers in their interests. The speeding up of production in many firms, it was found, rendered impracticable the employment of sub-normal juveniles, so many of whom in peace time are taken by employers on sympathetic grounds. But during the year it was possible to place 126 children (49 boys, 77 girls) of this type, 29 boys and 32 girls entering work directly from school.

61. The activities under the Scheme of After-Care and Industrial Supervision had perforce to be considerably reduced during the year, as it was considered advisable, during the black-out conditions, to

suspend the usual weekly "Open Evening" meetings. These, however, were resumed during the period when light evenings were enjoyed, and carried on with some benefit to those who attended to report upon their progress in employment.

62. The Junior Instruction Centres, which were closed on the outbreak of war, were reopened in April, 1940, but in view of the short periods of employment experienced by the majority of juveniles on the "Live" Register a much lower number than in normal times became eligible for the issue of the statutory requirement to attend the Centres. Of the four Boys' Centres reopened, three were closed at the end of August owing to the greatly-reduced numbers; the two Girls' Centres remained open until the month of October, when one was closed, only to be reopened at the end of 1940 following the closing of the other Centre, which was seriously damaged by enemy action in November.

63. During the summer term for the Public Elementary Schools, efforts were made, in conjunction with the Head Teachers of Liverpool schools in reception areas and the County Education Authorities concerned, to interest evacuated children nearing the school leaving age in the adoption of agriculture and horticulture as a career, the object being to induce any children to whom the proposal made a real appeal to remain in the reception area and to settle down to one of the rural occupations—subject, of course, to parental approval. Some success was achieved on these lines: a few nominations were received from the heads of evacuated schools and were carefully investigated; and in the end six boys were placed on farms approved as suitable by the co-operating County Education Committees. It is hoped that, by such means, further children will be encouraged to remain in the reception areas to work on the land, and the head teachers themselves are playing a quiet but useful part in this direction.

W. M. FRAZER,

*Medical Officer to the
Education Authority.*

Appendix A.**BOARD OF EDUCATION.****MEDICAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT RETURNS, YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1940.****TABLE I.****MEDICAL INSPECTIONS OF CHILDREN ATTENDING PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.****A.—Routine Medical Inspections.****NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS IN THE PRESCRIBED GROUPS :—**

| | | | | | | | |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|-----|--------|
| Entrants | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 13,561 |
| Second Age Group | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12,673 |
| Third Age Group | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11,523 |
| Other Ages | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,480 |
| | | | | | Total | ... | 39,237 |

B.—Other Inspections.

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-------|-----|--------|
| NUMBER OF SPECIAL INSPECTIONS | ... | ... | ... | ... | 39,455 |
| NUMBER OF RE-INSPECTIONS | ... | ... | ... | ... | 48,693 |
| | | | Total | ... | 88,148 |

TABLE II.**CLASSIFICATION OF THE NUTRITION OF CHILDREN INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR IN THE ROUTINE AGE GROUPS.**

| Age-groups. | Number of Children Inspected. | A. (Excellent). | | B. (Normal). | | C. (Slightly subnormal). | | D. (Bad). | |
|------------------------------|--|--------------------|------|-----------------|-------|--------------------------------|------|--------------|------|
| | | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Entrants | 13,561 | 730 | 5·3 | 12,367 | 91·3 | 452 | 3·3 | 12 | 0·1 |
| Second Age Group | 12,673 | 789 | 6·22 | 11,420 | 90·11 | 458 | 3·62 | 6 | 0·05 |
| Third Age Group | 11,523 | 1,557 | 13·5 | 9,722 | 84·39 | 238 | 2·06 | 6 | 0·05 |
| Other Routine Inspections | 1,480 | 124 | 8·4 | 1,313 | 88·7 | 43 | 2·9 | — | — |
| TOTAL | 39,237 | 3,200 | 8·15 | 34,822 | 88·75 | 1,191 | 3·04 | 24 | 0·06 |

TABLE III.

Group I.—Treatment of Minor Ailments (Excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Table V).

TOTAL NUMBER OF DEFECTS TREATED OR UNDER TREATMENT DURING THE YEAR UNDER THE AUTHORITY'S SCHEME, 18,775.

Group II.—Treatment of Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments, Group I).

| | No. of Defects dealt with. | | |
|---|-------------------------------|------------|--------|
| | Under the Authority's Scheme. | Otherwise. | Total. |
| ERRORS OF REFRACTION (including squint)..... | 3,872 | 54 | 3,926 |
| Other defect or disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I) | 8 | 2 | 10 |
| Total | 3,880 | 56 | 3,936 |
| | Under the Authority's Scheme. | Otherwise. | Total. |
| No. of Children for whom spectacles were | | | |
| (a) Prescribed | 3,010 | 54 | 3,064 |
| (b) Obtained | 2,980 | 54 | 3,034 |

Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

| NUMBER OF DEFECTS. | | | |
|--|---|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Received Operative Treatment. | | Received other forms of Treatment. | Total number treated. |
| Under the Authority's Scheme, or Clinic or Hospital. | By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme. | (3) | (4) |
| (1) | (2) | | |
| 69 | 9 | 4 | 82 |

TABLE IV.

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

(1) Number of Children Inspected :—

| | Aged | |
|--|--|------------------|
| (a) Routine Age groups | 5 285 6 2,267 7 2,442 8 2,592 9 2,796 10 2,963 11 2,606 12 2,678 13 2,573 14 & over ... 583 | Total ... 21,785 |
| (b) Specials | | 14,405 |
| (c) Grand Total | | 36,190 |
| (2) Number found to require treatment | | 30,040 |
| (3) Number actually treated | | 15,816 |
| (4) Attendances made by children for treatment | | 23,149 |
| (5) Half-days devoted to | Inspection 275 *Treatment 3,661 | Total ... 3,936 |

* Includes 1,330 sessions in which a Dental Officer acted as Anæsthetist.

| | | |
|--|--|------------------|
| (6) Fillings :— | Permanent Teeth 3,905 Temporary Teeth — | Total ... 3,905 |
| (7) Extractions :— | Permanent Teeth 13,605 Temporary Teeth 38,259 | Total ... 51,864 |
| (8) Administrations of general anaesthetic for extractions | | 16,789 |
| (9) Other Operations :— | Permanent Teeth 735 Temporary Teeth — | Total ... 735 |

TABLE V.**VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.**

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| (1) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses | 90 |
| | (19,497 sessions) |
| (2) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses | 567,087 |
| (3) Number of individual children found unclean..... | 37,666 |
| (4) Number of individual children cleansed under Section 87 (2) and (3) of the Education Act, 1921..... | 20,517 |
| (5) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :— | |
| (a) Under the Education Act, 1921 | Nil |
| (b) Under School Attendance Bye-laws..... | Nil |

TABLE VI.**BLIND AND DEAF CHILDREN.**

| | (1) At a Public Elementary School. | (2) At an Institution other than a Special School. | (3) At no School or Institution. | (4) Total not receiving suitable Education. |
|--------------------|--|---|---|---|
| Blind Children ... | — | — | — | — |
| Deaf Children ... | 1 | — | 7 | 8 |

MENTALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

| | |
|--|----|
| Total number of children notified during the year ended 31st December, 1940, by the Local Education Authority to the Local Mental Deficiency Authority, under the Mental Deficiency (Notification of Children) Regulations, 1928 | 75 |
|--|----|

Appendix B.**MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS.****TABLE I.****MEDICAL INSPECTION OF CHILDREN ATTENDING
HIGHER SCHOOLS.****A.—Routine Medical Inspections.**

NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS IN THE PRESCRIBED GROUPS—

| Age. | Boys. | Girls. | TOTAL. |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 8 years | 23 | 39 | 62 |
| 9 years | 50 | 57 | 107 |
| 10 years | 123 | 98 | 221 |
| 11 years | 401 | 420 | 821 |
| 12 years | 523 | 463 | 986 |
| 13 years | 248 | 158 | 406 |
| 14 years | 332 | 114 | 446 |
| 15 years | 158 | 78 | 236 |
| 16 years | 9 | 36 | 45 |
| 17 years | 2 | 25 | 27 |
| TOTAL | 1,869 | 1,488 | 3,357 |

B.—Other Inspections.

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------------|
| NUMBER OF SPECIAL INSPECTIONS | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 862 |
| NUMBER OF RE-INSPECTIONS | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 59 |
| | | | | | | | | 921 |

HIGHER SCHOOLS.**TABLE II.****Classification of the Nutrition of Children Inspected during the Year in the Routine Age Groups,**

| Age-groups. | Number of Children Inspected. | A. (Excellent). | | B. (Normal). | | C. (Slightly subnormal). | | D. (Bad). | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|------|-----------------|------|-----------------------------|-----|--------------|---|
| | | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| All Routine Inspections | 3,357 | 430 | 12.8 | 2,899 | 86.3 | 28 | 0.9 | — | — |

TABLE III.

Group I.—Treatment of Minor Ailments (Excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Table V).

TOTAL NUMBER OF DEFECTS TREATED OR UNDER TREATMENT DURING THE YEAR
UNDER THE AUTHORITY'S SCHEME, 8.

Group II.—Treatment of Defective Vision and Squint (Excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I).

| | Number of Defects dealt with. | | |
|--|-------------------------------|------------|--------|
| | Under the Authority's Scheme. | Otherwise. | Total. |
| ERRORS OF REFRACTION (including squint)..... | 366 | 20 | 386 |
| Other defect or disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I)..... | — | — | — |
| Total | 366 | 20 | 386 |

| | Number of Defects dealt with. | | |
|---|-------------------------------|------------|--------|
| | Under the Authority's Scheme. | Otherwise. | Total. |
| Number of children for whom spectacles were | | | |
| (a) Prescribed | 250 | 19 | 269 |
| (b) Obtained | 250 | 19 | 269 |

Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

| NUMBER OF DEFECTS. | | | |
|--|--|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Received Operative Treatment. | | Received other forms of Treatment. | Total number treated. |
| Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital. (1) | By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme. (2) | (3) | (4) |
| — | 2 | — | 2 |

Appendix C.

LIVERPOOL EDUCATION COMMITTEE. PHYSICAL TRAINING FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHILDREN DURING 1940.

Physical Training instruction in the elementary schools of Liverpool was carried out during the year 1940 to the fullest extent possible, but was subject to drastic war-time interruptions and curtailments caused by the evacuation of large numbers of children, the dispersal and absorption into the Services of teachers, the damage done to school premises, playing fields and baths by enemy action, and the allocation of playing fields for food production.

A course of instruction for women teachers in playground and field games was successfully organised during the summer months, and a Leaders' Course in physical training for youths nominated for instructional purposes in connection with the Liverpool Civil Defence Cadets was enthusiastically attended.

Although billeting arrangements, and transport and catering facilities were difficult, six school camps were conducted by teachers, with the financial assistance of grants-in-aid from the Education Committee.

The Liverpool teachers' sports' associations, which have for many years successfully organised "out of school" activities and competitions for the scholars, launched emergency schemes during the year, which included eleven leagues of inter-school football, inter-town football matches, and cricket, baseball, rounders, athletic and swimming competitions; these schemes were carried out as completely as war-time circumstances would permit.

Bathing facilities (swimming plunges and private baths) were available, with broken intervals, at the Corporation public baths, and two school swimming baths were in use during the summer months.

Attendances at the various public baths for swimming instruction during school hours, and for washing purposes, are tabulated below:—



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